

On 19 June 2017, the Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an agency of the Department of Commerce, granted a license to Cornell University to operate a private, space-based camera system as part of their Cislunar Explorers spacecraft. The Cislunar Explorers are designed to demonstrate water electrolysis propulsion and interplanetary optical navigation technology. They will seek to achieve lunar orbit between 300 km altitude and 10,000 km apoapsis. The optical navigation system will capture images of the Sun, Earth, and Moon; these images will be used for onboard computations of spacecraft position and attitude.

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